

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 95, "Game Harvest Reporting and Landowner-Tenant Registration," Iowa Administrative Code.

These rules give the regulations for reporting deer and turkey harvest and for registering for landowner-tenant licenses. The proposed amendments remove the three-year eligibility period limit and require registered landowners and tenants to notify the Department if their registration information or eligibility status changes. Eligibility will be periodically verified by Department staff.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before April 29, 2009. Written comments may be directed to the Wildlife Bureau's Web site at www.iowadnr.com or may be sent to the Wildlife Bureau Chief, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; fax (515)281-6794. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Wildlife Bureau at (515)281-5034 or at the Wildlife Bureau offices on the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building.

Also, there will be public hearings held at 18 locations via the Iowa Communications Network on April 29, 2009, from 6 to 9 p.m. Interested persons should contact the Department at (515)281-5034 for a list of hearing locations or go to the Department's Web site at www.iowadnr.com. At the hearings, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Persons attending the hearings will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend a public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department of Natural Resources and advise of specific needs.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, 483A.1, 483A.7 and 483A.24.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—95.2(481A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

571—95.2(481A) Verifying eligibility for free landowner or tenant licenses. Eligibility for free and reduced-fee deer and wild turkey hunting licenses, which are hereafter referred to as free licenses, is defined in Iowa Code section 483A.24, rule 571—98.5(483A) and rule 571—106.12(481A). The electronic licensing system for Iowa (ELSI) will not issue free licenses to persons who have not registered their eligibility with ELSI. ~~Registering once will enable a landowner or tenant and any eligible family members to receive all the free licenses for which the landowner or tenant is eligible for three years after the date of registration, provided the landowner's and tenant's eligibility status does not change within the three-year period.~~

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 95.2(6) as follows:

95.2(6) Registration expiration and renewal. ~~A landowner or tenant shall renew the landowner's or tenant's registration whenever the landowner's or tenant's eligibility or the eligibility of a family member changes. A landowner or tenant shall renew the landowner's or tenant's registration after three years to retain free license privileges. A registered landowner, tenant, or eligible family member may obtain free licenses as allowed in subrule 95.2(2) provided the registration information and eligibility status remain~~

valid. If the registration information or eligibility status of a registered landowner, tenant, or eligible family member changes, that individual must send by U.S. mail or by fax a DNR affidavit form or contact the DNR by telephone. The DNR will periodically review registration information to verify eligibility status and will inactivate registrations when the registration information fails to indicate eligibility.